

**Issue: Our customers want to communicate sensitive information with FSA via email.**

Issue	Threat/ Vulnerability	Impact/ Likelihood	Possible Solutions	Pros	Cons
Protecting sensitive data in transit	Unprotected, plain text email could be intercepted during transit	High/Low	Explore several options to send encrypted email <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PGP/PKI</li> <li>- COTS App</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If data is intercepted, it is difficult for the threat to view the sensitive data</li> <li>- Satisfy customer's security and privacy concerns</li> <li>- May satisfy Privacy Act concerns regarding unauthorized disclosure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No enterprise-wide secure email solution is available in FSA. To be cost effective, FSA would need to develop an enterprise- wide approach.</li> <li>- Moderate development and maintenance costs.</li> <li>- May require users to download application</li> </ul>
			Receive consent from the customer prior to emailing sensitive information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Potentially satisfy legal liability concerns</li> <li>- Eliminate need for technical solution to a policy question</li> <li>- Inexpensive undertaking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Security concerns may discourage customers from using email as the communication medium, resulting in increased costs for FSA.</li> <li>- Need OGC support</li> </ul>
Verifying the identity of the customer	Email addresses are easy to obtain and somewhat easy to impersonate. Email addresses do not provide reasonable authentication	High/Medium	Use a personal URL to direct a customer to an FSA hosted website where the customer uses shared secrets to authenticate themselves.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would use already accepted method of authentication within FSA</li> <li>- Avoids sending Privacy Act information via email altogether</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moderate development costs</li> <li>- Increased burden on customer</li> </ul>
			Upon receipt of email containing sensitive information, require a "Call Back" to verify identify by requesting shared secrets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Applies a layer of assurance that the person FSA communicates with is who they say they are.</li> <li>- Provides a check against threats attempting to obtain unauthorized information.</li> <li>- Keeps multiple users on one computer from having access to each other's private info.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Customers who contact FSA via email may not have access to a telephone or may not want to communicate via telephone.</li> <li>- Increase length of time necessary to resolve issues/requests</li> </ul>

